NOVEMBER
No.20

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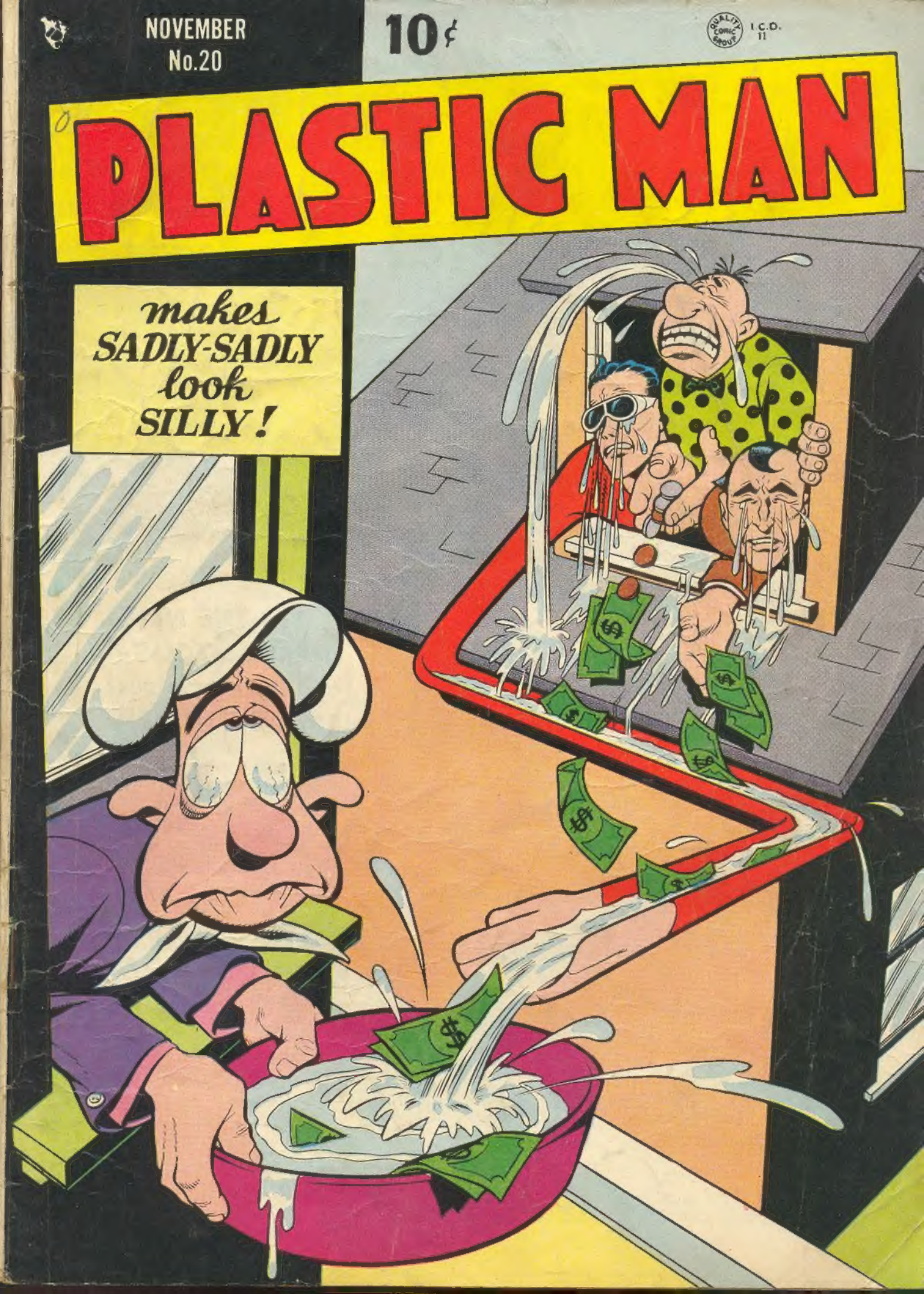
QUALITY COMIC GROUP I.C.D. 11

PLASTIC MAN



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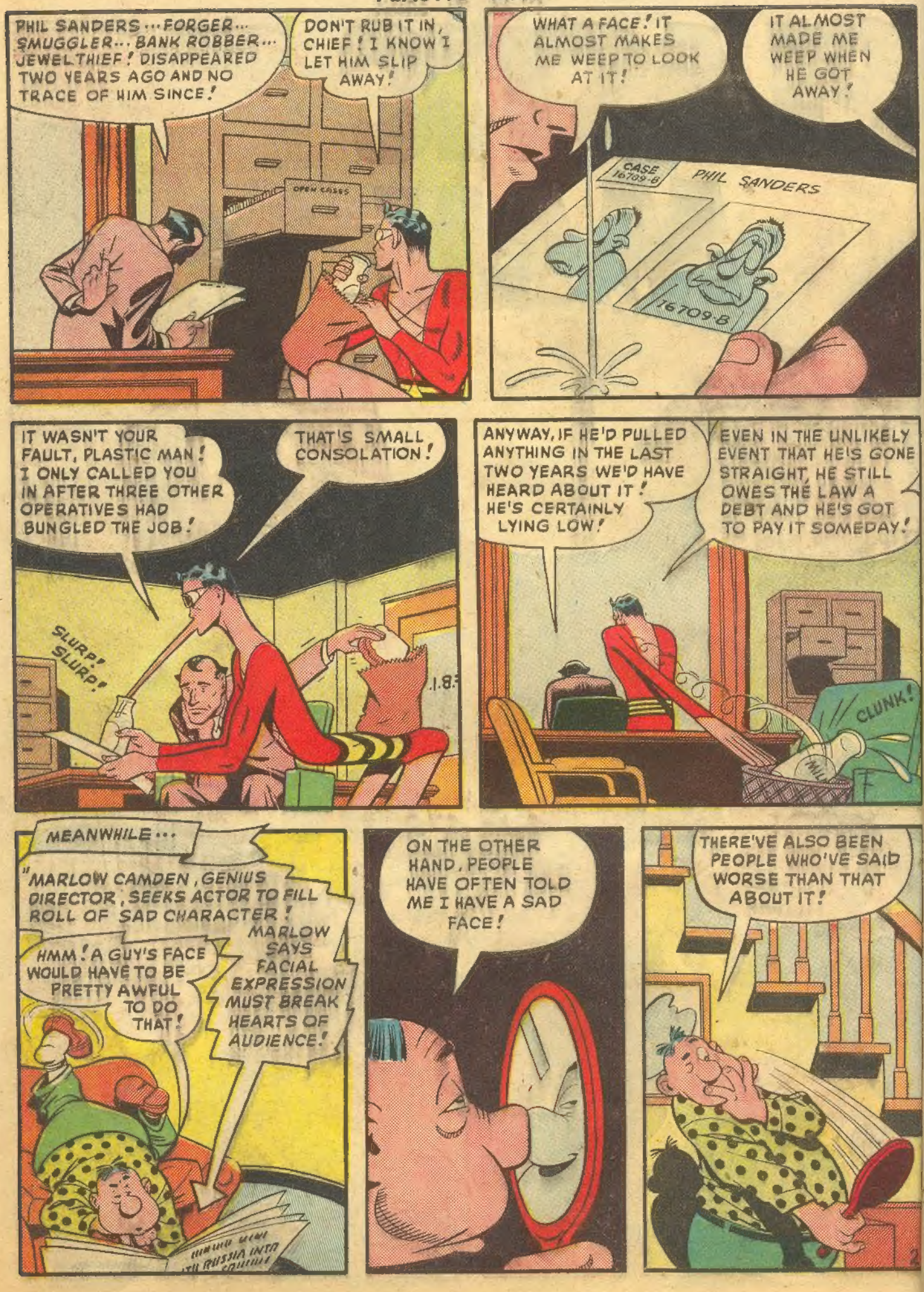
PLASTIC MAN
IT'S SADLY-SADLY SANDERS! DON'T LOOK AT HIS FACE, PLAS, OR YOU'LL BREAK DOWN AND LET HIM GET AWAY WITH ALL THIS STUFF!
WEARY WAY
MELANC ALLEY
:SNIFF: HE LOOKS SO SAD! MAYBE MY MONEY'LL MAKE HIM FEEL BETTER!
:SOB: :SOB: TAKE THEM, YOU POOR MAN! I CAN'T ENJOY WEARING THEM WHILE YOU LOOK SO WRETCHED!

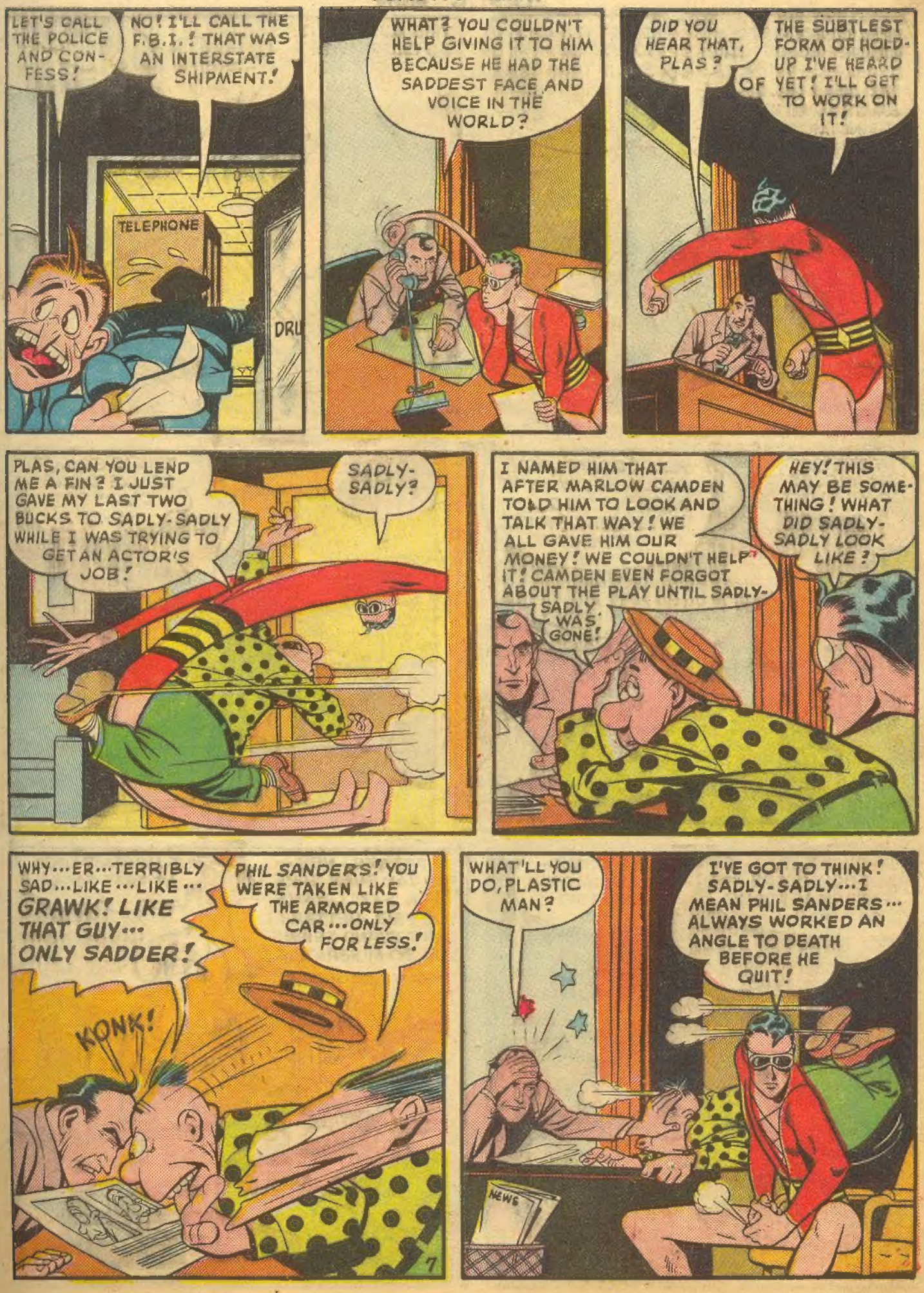

PHIL SANDERS ... FORGER ... SMUGGLER ... BANK ROBBER ... JEWEL THIEF! DISAPPEARED TWO YEARS AGO AND NO TRACE OF HIM SINCE!
DON'T RUB IT IN, CHIEF! I KNOW I LET HIM SLIP AWAY!
OPEN CASES
WHAT A FACE! IT ALMOST MAKES ME WEEP TO LOOK AT IT!
IT ALMOST MADE ME WEEP WHEN HE GOT AWAY!
CASE 16709-B
PHIL SANDERS
16709-B
IT WASN'T YOUR FAULT, PLASTIC MAN! I ONLY CALLED YOU IN AFTER THREE OTHER OPERATIVES HAD BUNGLED THE JOB!
THAT'S SMALL CONSOLATION!
SLURP! SLURP!
ANYWAY, IF HE'D PULLED ANYTHING IN THE LAST TWO YEARS WE'D HAVE HEARD ABOUT IT! HE'S CERTAINLY LYING LOW!
EVEN IN THE UNLIKELY EVENT THAT HE'S GONE STRAIGHT, HE STILL OWES THE LAW A DEBT AND HE'S GOT TO PAY IT SOMEDAY!
CLUNK!
MEANWHILE ...
"MARLOW CAMDEN, GENIUS DIRECTOR, SEEKS ACTOR TO FILL ROLL OF SAD CHARACTER!
HMM! A GUY'S FACE WOULD HAVE TO BE PRETTY AWFUL TO DO THAT!
MARLOW SAYS FACIAL EXPRESSION MUST BREAK HEARTS OF AUDIENCE!
ON THE OTHER HAND, PEOPLE HAVE OFTEN TOLD ME I HAVE A SAD FACE!
THERE'VE ALSO BEEN PEOPLE WHO'VE SAID WORSE THAN THAT ABOUT IT!

BUT IT SOUNDS LIKE AN EASY JOB IF I CAN GET IT!
I MAY BE ABLE TO BEAT THIS COMPETITION!
ALWIN THEATER
STAG DOO
A FINE THING! ALL BECAUSE OF PLASTIC MAN I'VE BEEN REDUCED TO HONEST ACTIVITIES FOR TWO YEARS!
THIS JOB MAY BE RISKY IF I GET IT! PLASTIC MAN MAY RECOGNIZE ME ON THE STAGE!
ALL RIGHT, GENTLEMEN, I'M READY TO LOOK AT YOU!
STILL, ACTING PAYS BETTER THAN MOST JOBS ··· AND WITH PLENTY OF MAKEUP I MAY EVEN FOOL PLASTIC MAN!
WHAT DO YOU THINK OF THIS FACE, MR. CAMDEN? IT ISN'T BAD!
IT'S BAD, ALL RIGHT, BUT IT ISN'T SAD!
3

HOW ABOUT ME, MR. CAMDEN? WILL MY FACE DO?
AS AN UNDERSTUDY FOR A HORSE, PERHAPS! THERE ARE NO HORSES IN MY PLAY!
TERRIBLE! HORRIBLE! HOW DO YOU LIVE WITH IT?
OH, I ONLY LOOK AT IT WHEN I SHAVE!
A BEARD MIGHT BE A BETTER IDEA! IT WOULD HIDE PART OF IT!
I HAVE A FEELING HE ISN'T GIVING ME THE JOB!
SPLENDID! SUPERB! THIS IS IT!
I'LL GET THE CONTRACTS, MR. CAMDEN!
OF COURSE I'LL HAVE TO DO A FEW THINGS WITH IT FIRST... MAKE IT A LITTLE SADDER... MORE PATHETIC!
SURE... SURE... ANYTHING YOU SAY!
A HEAVIER DROOP TO THE CORNERS OF THE MOUTH ...A MORE TORTURED LOOK TO THE EYES! JUST A FEW CAMDEN TOUCHES! GOOD! KEEP YOUR FACE THAT WAY!

NOW REPEAT AFTER ME! I... I'M BROKE... HUNGRY... STARVING!
I...I'M BROKE... HUNGRY... STARVING!
SADLY... SADLY! SAY IT VERY SADLY!
I...I'M BROKE... HUNGRY... STARVING!
OH...THE POOR GUY! THE POOR, POOR GUY!
HE'S BREAKING MY HEART! HE LOOKS SO PATHETIC! HE TALKS SO SADLY... SADLY!
HERE ARE MY LAST TWO BUCKS...ER... SADLY-SADLY! IT'S THE ONLY NAME I CAN THINK OF FOR YOU!
? ?
EVERYTHING WE HAVE IS YOURS! YOU MUST NEED IT WORSE THAN WE DO!
THEY'RE RIGHT! THE HAPLESS MAN IS PITIFUL!
SOB! SOB! SOB!
TAKE IT! MY MONEY... MY WATCH...MY STICKPIN! I REFUSE TO OWN ANYTHING WHILE THERE'S SUCH MISERY ABOUT ME!
I'VE EVEN GOT HIM! WHAT AN ANGLE! I SHOULD WORK WHEN I'VE GOT THIS NEW GIFT FOR GETTING EASY DOUGH?
BOO HOO! SOB! SLOBBER!
BLUB!
ALL I HAVE TO DO IS REMEMBER WHAT CAMDEN TAUGHT ME ABOUT THE TONE OF MY VOICE AND THE EXPRESSION ON MY FACE! I'LL BE ABLE TO PULL ANYTHING AND MAYBE EVEN WIN PLASTIC MAN'S SYMPATHY!
5

AN ARMORED CAR! WHAT AN OPPORTUNITY FOR MY FACE TO DO ITS STUFF!
STOP! LOOK AT THAT POOR GUY! THE LOOK ON HIS FACE IS BREAKING MY HEART!
MINE, TOO! HE'S THE SADDEST LOOKING GUY I'VE EVER SEEN!
:SNIFF: IS THERE ANYTHING WE CAN DO FOR YOU? JUST NAME IT!
THE MONEY IN THE ARMORED CAR... YOU CAN HAND IT TO ME!
:SOB: IT'S IMPOSSIBLE TO REFUSE HIM ANYTHING!
:SOB: I CAN'T EVEN THINK ABOUT ANYTHING BUT HIS SADNESS!
YOUR CAR... I NEED IT!
YOU DON'T HAVE TO ASK ME TWICE! IF YOU WANT IT, IT'S YOURS! I'D RATHER DIE THAN SAY NO TO YOU! :SNIFF:
GRAWK! WHAT HAVE WE DONE? WHAT CAME OVER US?
HOW COULD WE DO IT? WE WEREN'T OURSELVES ... COULDN'T THINK RATIONALLY!


LET'S CALL THE POLICE AND CONFESS!
NO! I'LL CALL THE F.B.I.! THAT WAS AN INTERSTATE SHIPMENT!
TELEPHONE
DRU
WHAT? YOU COULDN'T HELP GIVING IT TO HIM BECAUSE HE HAD THE SADDEST FACE AND VOICE IN THE WORLD?
DID YOU HEAR THAT, PLAS?
THE SUBTLEST FORM OF HOLD-UP I'VE HEARD OF YET! I'LL GET TO WORK ON IT!
PLAS, CAN YOU LEND ME A FIN? I JUST GAVE MY LAST TWO BUCKS TO SADLY-SADLY WHILE I WAS TRYING TO GET AN ACTOR'S JOB!
SADLY-SADLY?
I NAMED HIM THAT AFTER MARLOW CAMDEN TOLD HIM TO LOOK AND TALK THAT WAY! WE ALL GAVE HIM OUR MONEY! WE COULDN'T HELP IT! CAMDEN EVEN FORGOT ABOUT THE PLAY UNTIL SADLY-SADLY WAS GONE!
HEY! THIS MAY BE SOMETHING! WHAT DID SADLY-SADLY LOOK LIKE?
WHY...ER...TERRIBLY SAD...LIKE...LIKE... GRAWK! LIKE THAT GUY... ONLY SADDER!
PHIL SANDERS! YOU WERE TAKEN LIKE THE ARMORED CAR...ONLY FOR LESS!
KONK!
WHAT'LL YOU DO, PLASTIC MAN?
I'VE GOT TO THINK! SADLY-SADLY...I MEAN PHIL SANDERS... ALWAYS WORKED AN ANGLE TO DEATH BEFORE HE QUIT!
NEWS

HE'LL CONCENTRATE ON THE BIGGEST HAULS IN TOWN! LET ME SEE! IF I WERE SADLY-SADLY, WHAT WOULD I FIND MOST TEMPTING?
I GET IT, PLAS! YOU'RE GONNA SEE IF THE PAPER HAS SOME TIP-OFF TO A BIG JOB!
Sale
EVENING NE
THIS MUST BE IT! NO CROOK WITH A HOT ANGLE WOULD PASS THIS UP!
TARTIER'S BUYS DOMBOOR'S MAHARAJA OF MILLION-DOLLAR COLLECTION OF JEWELS! ON DISPLAY TODAY!
BUT I'VE GOT A FEW ANGLES OF MY OWN!
PLAS! DON'T LOOK SADLY-SADLY IN THE FACE! IF YOU DO, YOU'RE SUNK! YOU'LL DO ANYTHING HE ASKS!
Later, AT TARTIER'S...
THIS IS GOING TO BE LIKE TAKING CANDY FROM A BABY!
Tartier's
MAHARAJA O
DOMBOOR'S
JEWEL
COLLECTIO
ON DISPLAY
TODAY
WH-WHAT IS IT, YOU POOR CHAP? IS THERE ANYTHING I CAN DO?
THOSE GEMS... IF I COULD ONLY TOUCH THEM!
MAHARAJA OF MBOOR EWEL LECTION
:SNIFF: YES... YES... YOU CAN EVEN TAKE THEM IF IT'LL MAKE YOU FEEL BETTER! I CAN'T STAND SEEING YOU SO MISERABLE!
I MUSTN'T LOOK AT THAT FACE!

THANK YOU! I'M BEGINNING TO FEEL BETTER ALREADY!
YOU'RE GOING TO FEEL A LOT WORSE IN A MINUTE!
AWRK!
EXCUSE MY HAND ON YOUR FACE! I JUST DON'T WANT MY HEART BROKEN!
NO! NO!
GOODNESS! WHAT CAME OVER ME? I WAS ABOUT TO LET THE FELLOW TAKE THE JEWELS! NO WONDER THE BOSS HAD PLASTIC MAN ON THE JOB! THEY EXPECTED THIS TO HAPPEN!
LOOK! IT'S PLASTIC MAN!
HE MUST'VE NABBED A THIEF!
MRMPF! I'M NOT GIVING UP WITHOUT A FIGHT!
OUCH!
CRUNCH!
GOSH! LOOK AT THE POOR, SAD GUY! A MAN WHO LOOKS LIKE THAT CAN'T BE A CRIMINAL!
HE'S TOO PATHETIC!

:SNIFF: THAT PLASTIC MAN'S JUST A VICIOUS STRONG-ARM GUY!
THE BRUTE! HOW CAN YOU MEN STAND THERE AND LET HIM MAUL THAT MISERABLE MAN?
HEY! LET GO! YOU DON'T UNDERSTAND!
WE CERTAINLY DO, YOU MONSTER!
I CAN'T SHAKE THEM OFF! THERE ARE TOO MANY OF THEM!
BOY, THIS ALMOST MAKES ME LAUGH! BUT IF I LAUGH THE CROWD MIGHT STOP ITS GOOD WORK!
BOP!
CRASH!
SOB-SOB!
BUT I WON'T REALLY LAUGH UNTIL I SEE YOU DEAD! WHAT A LAUGH I'LL HAVE THEN!
OHHH!
I'D BETTER BEAT IT BEFORE TARTIER'S CALLS THE COPS AND THEY START SHOOTING BEFORE THEY SEE MY SAD FACE!
WHAT ARE WE DOING? WHERE'S THAT SAD-FACED GUY?
HE'S GONE! WE MUST BE MAD! WE DON'T EVEN KNOW WHY WE'RE MAULING PLASTIC MAN!
GRRRR!
CRUNCH!
BAM!
BAM!

HE ISN'T MOVING!
HE LOOKS DEAD!
WE KILLED HIM WITHOUT KNOWING ANYTHING ABOUT THAT GUY WE WERE TRYING TO HELP!
WHEN I LOOKED AT THAT PATHETIC FACE I WAS READY TO DO ANYTHING FOR HIM, BUT NOW I DON'T KNOW WHY!
WHAT'S GOING ON?
WE'RE ALL GUILTY! WE KILLED PLASTIC MAN!
PLASTIC MAN DIES AFTER MAULING BY MOB! I HATE TO WRITE IT BUT IT'LL BE THE STORY OF THE CENTURY!
As EXTRA EDITIONS OF THE NEWSPAPERS APPEAR ...
SO THEY REALLY DID IT! OH, BOY!
EXTRA! EVENING NEWS EXTRA! PLASTIC MAN DIES AFTER MAULING BY MOB! LIES IN STATE AT HOME
PLASTIC MAN DEAD! THIS I GOTTA SEE! I'M PERFECTLY SAFE GOING THERE, BECAUSE EVERYBODY'LL JUST FORGET PLASTIC MAN AND WEEP FOR ME WHEN THEY SEE ME!

THIS IS WHERE HE LIVES ... I MEAN, LIVED! I WASN'T KIDDING WHEN I SAID I WAS GOING TO HAVE A GOOD LAUGH! HERE GOES!
GULP! HOW SAD CAN WE GET?
:SNIFF: THERE ARE WORSE THINGS THAN DYING! LOOK AT HIM!
AH! WHAT MISERY!
PLASTIC MAN DEAD RIGHT BEFORE MY -YES! HAW, HAW!
THIS MAKES UP FOR EVERYTHING! HAW, HAW, HAW! THIS LAUGH'LL DO ME FOR THE REST OF MY LIFE! HAW! HAW! HAW!
YAWP! WHAT WERE WE FEELING SORRY FOR HIM FOR? LET'S GET HIM!
THAT WON'T BE NECESSARY, CHIEF! I'VE GOT HIM!
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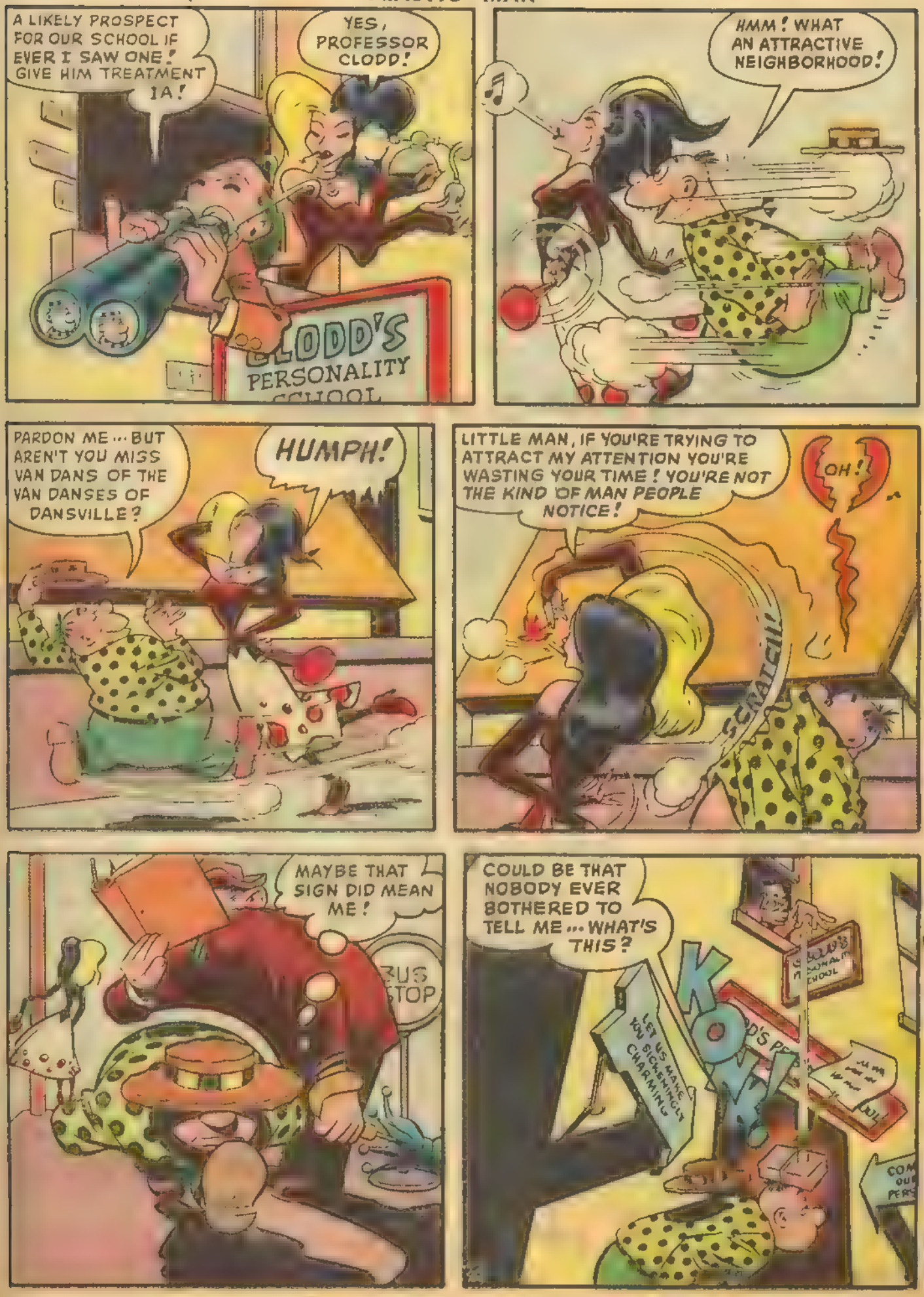
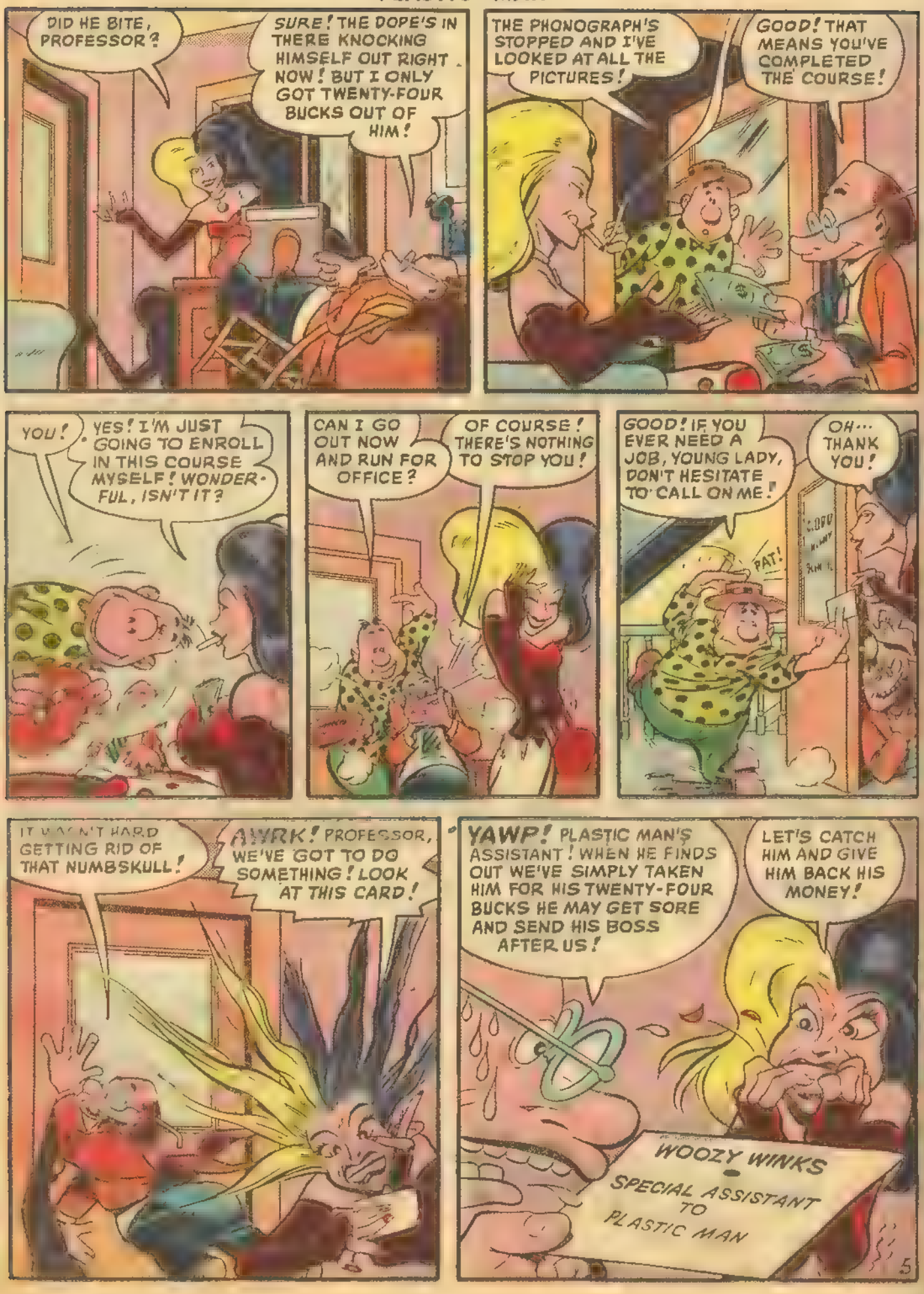
GOT TO LOOK SAD SO THEY'LL START FEELING SORRY FOR ME AGAIN! GRAWK! I CAN'T MOVE MY MOUTH INTO A SAD EXPRESSION! PLASTIC MAN'S SOCK FROZE IT FOR ME!
I···I THOUGHT YOU WERE DEAD!
OBVIOUSLY! BUT AS MARK TWAIN ONCE SAID, THE RUMORS OF MY DEATH WERE GREATLY EXAGGERATED!
WHEN THE MOB HAD ME DOWN I HEARD YOU MAKE THAT CRACK ABOUT HAVING A GOOD LAUGH WHEN I WAS DEAD! I KNEW THAT IF YOU EVER LAUGHED I COULD GET YOU WITHOUT WORRYING WHAT YOUR SAD LOOK MIGHT DO!
SO I DECIDED TO PLAY DEAD ON THE CHANCE THAT YOU'D COME AROUND TO ENJOY YOUR LAUGH! YOU DID COME AROUND!
PLAS, BE CAREFUL! HE'S BEGINNING TO LOSE THAT GRIN!
WE'VE GOT TO DO SOMETHING! THAT SOCK ONLY FROZE HIS FACIAL NERVES FOR A FEW MINUTES! IF HE BECOMES SAD-FACED AGAIN HE MAY TALK US INTO LETTING HIM GO! I'VE GOT IT! HERE'S A FEATHER, WOOZY!
A FEATHER? OH, I GET IT, TOO, PLAS!
HAR! HAR! HAR! HAW! HAW! HAW! STOP IT! YOU'RE KILLING ME!
NOT A BIT! JUST KEEPING YOU AMUSED UNTIL WE GET YOU INTO A FOOR-WALLED CELL WHERE YOU CAN'T MAKE SAD FACES AT ANYBODY!
HO! HO! HA! HA! STOP IT!
HO! HO!
IF I'D THOUGHT OF THIS BEFORE, I'D HAVE SAVED MYSELF PLENTY OF TROUBLE!

S FUNNY... DOGS NEVER TOOK TO ME BEFORE! I GUESS MY PERSONALITY MUST HAVE CHANGED!
HOW CAN ANYONE DOUBT IT?
IS YOURS A CAPTIVATING PERSONALITY
SCRATCH ITCH
SNIFF!
PHEW!
NOT ME! I MAKE AN IMPRESSION!
OR ARE YOU THE MAN NOBODY NOTICES?
FRESH CEMENT


A LIKELY PROSPECT FOR OUR SCHOOL IF EVER I SAW ONE! GIVE HIM TREATMENT 1A!
YES, PROFESSOR CLODD!
CLODD'S PERSONALITY SCHOOL
HMM! WHAT AN ATTRACTIVE NEIGHBORHOOD!
PARDON ME ... BUT AREN'T YOU MISS VAN DANS OF THE VAN DANSES OF DANSVILLE?
HUMPH!
LITTLE MAN, IF YOU'RE TRYING TO ATTRACT MY ATTENTION YOU'RE WASTING YOUR TIME! YOU'RE NOT THE KIND OF MAN PEOPLE NOTICE!
OH!
SCRATCH!
MAYBE THAT SIGN DID MEAN ME!
STOP
COULD BE THAT NOBODY EVER BOTHERED TO TELL ME ... WHAT'S THIS?
LET US MAKE YOU SICKENINGLY CHARMING
KONK

WHAT A COINCIDENCE! JUST WHEN I NEED SOMETHING LIKE THIS MOST!
If you have a negative personality, if you leave the world cold, DON'T DESPAIR!
COME TO CLODD'S PERSONALITY SCHOOL
GET YOUR PERSONALITY REDONE!
I WON'T WASTE ANY TIME! MY MIND'S MADE UP!
CLODD SCHOOL
SO YOU WANT A NEW PERSONALITY! LET ME SEE... I WOULD SAY THAT AT PRESENT YOU'RE THE OFFENSIVE TYPE! ONE MIGHT EVEN CALL YOU REPULSIVE!
BUT IT ISN'T HOPELESS! I CAN REMAKE YOU SO YOUR OWN MOTHER WON'T RECOGNIZE YOU!
FINE! HOW MUCH WILL IT COST?
THREE HUNDRED DOLLARS!
GOSH! I'VE ONLY GOT TWENTY-FOUR BUCKS!
BONG!
GIMME IT! I'LL CONSIDER YOU A SCHOLARSHIP STUDENT!
NOW TO DECIDE WHICH PERSONALITY WILL SUIT YOU BEST!
GLAMOUR TYPE
EXECUTIVE TYPE
PUBLIC OFFICE TYPE

I'D LIKE THAT ONE IF IT'S ALL THE SAME TO YOU!
GLAMOR TYPE
RIDICULOUS! WE'D NEED THE HELP OF EVERY PLASTIC SURGEON IN THE WORLD! IT WOULD COST MILLIONS!
EXECUTIVE TYPE
THE EXECUTIVE TYPE, PERHAPS? NO! WHY SHOULD I GIVE YOU A PERSONALITY THAT MIGHT MAKE YOU A MILLIONAIRE, WHEN YOU'RE ONLY PAYING TWENTY-FOUR BUCKS FOR THE COURSE!
THAT'S IT! YOU'VE GOT THE FACE FOR THE MAN IN PUBLIC OFFICE! I'LL ADD THE REST!
Y'MEAN, WHEN YOU'RE THROUGH I CAN GET A BIG POLITICAL JOB?
NO DOUBT ABOUT IT!
OH, WELL ... THEN I CAN HIRE HER AS MY SECRETARY!
STUDY THESE FACES! TRY TO GET THE SAME EXPRESSION! ALSO, LISTEN TO THE VOICES ON THESE RECORDS! TRY TO TALK LIKE THEM!
AND IF YOU VOTE FOR ME ... BLAH ... BLAH ...
IT'S TIME FOR MY NAP!


DID HE BITE, PROFESSOR?
SURE! THE DOPE'S IN THERE KNOCKING HIMSELF OUT RIGHT NOW! BUT I ONLY GOT TWENTY-FOUR BUCKS OUT OF HIM!
THE PHONOGRAPH'S STOPPED AND I'VE LOOKED AT ALL THE PICTURES!
GOOD! THAT MEANS YOU'VE COMPLETED THE COURSE!
YOU!
YES! I'M JUST GOING TO ENROLL IN THIS COURSE MYSELF! WONDERFUL, ISN'T IT?
CAN I GO OUT NOW AND RUN FOR OFFICE?
OF COURSE! THERE'S NOTHING TO STOP YOU!
GOOD! IF YOU EVER NEED A JOB, YOUNG LADY, DON'T HESITATE TO CALL ON ME!
OH... THANK YOU!
PAT!
IT WASN'T HARD GETTING RID OF THAT NUMBSKULL!
AWRK! PROFESSOR, WE'VE GOT TO DO SOMETHING! LOOK AT THIS CARD!
YAWP! PLASTIC MAN'S ASSISTANT! WHEN HE FINDS OUT WE'VE SIMPLY TAKEN HIM FOR HIS TWENTY-FOUR BUCKS HE MAY GET SORE AND SEND HIS BOSS AFTER US!
LET'S CATCH HIM AND GIVE HIM BACK HIS MONEY!
WOOZY WINKS
SPECIAL ASSISTANT TO PLASTIC MAN
5

MEANWHILE...
I'LL GO HOME AND HAVE SOME LUNCH WHILE I DECIDE WHICH PUBLIC OFFICE I WANT AND PLAN MY CAMPAIGN!
SHULTZ BUTCHER SHOP
EVERY DOG CATCHER WE'VE EVER ELECTED HAS QUIT IN A FEW DAYS! WE JUST DON'T PAY THEM ENOUGH MONEY!
OUR CITIZEN'S COMMITTEE BUDGET WON'T PERMIT US TO PAY MORE! BUT SOMEHOW WE'LL HAVE TO FIND ANOTHER DOG CATCHER!
DOG POUND
LOOK! THAT GUY'S PERFECT FOR THE JOB!
WE CAN SEE THAT TO YOU DOG CATCHING IS A DISTINGUISHED CAREER! AS MEMBERS OF THE CITIZENS' COMMITTEE WE IMPLORE YOU TO RUN FOR OFFICE! BE OUR DOG CATCHER!
THIS HAPPENED SOONER THAN I EXPECTED! THAT COURSE REALLY WORKED WONDERS!
WE CAN ONLY TAKE HIS SILENCE FOR ASSENT! LET'S ELECT HIM UNANIMOUSLY!
SEVERAL DAYS LATER...
LOOK! IT'S WOOZY WINKS! WE'VE FOUND HIM AT LAST! I'LL GIVE HIM THAT TWENTY-FOUR DOLLARS NOW!
HERE! IT'S YOUR MONEY! I SHOULDN'T HAVE TAKEN IT! W-WHY... YOU'RE AN OFFICIAL DOG CATCHER! THAT'S AN ELECTIVE OFFICE!
YES! AND I OWE IT ALL TO YOU! SORRY, I'VE GOT TO RUN NOW!
WAIT! TAKE ME WITH YOU! FOR YEARS I'VE DREAMED OF KNOWING A DOG CATCHER! THEY'RE SO BRAVE AND DASHING!
AND I THOUGHT I WAS GYPPING HIM! IT'S ENOUGH TO MAKE A GUY HONEST!

PLASTIC MAN

Mr. Blobb Goes to Town

MR. RALPH HAGAN, the renowned young scientist, stood hesitant in the center of his laboratory. He stared oddly at the pale amber fluid in the test tube. "If this is what I think it is," he whispered, "I've unlocked one of Nature's most closely guarded secrets. If it isn't—it means the end of me. Well—here goes." And resolutely he put the test tube to his lips and drained the sweetish liquid.

"I should have the characteristics of the amoeba," he whispered thinly. "If my formula was correct, I should turn into a flowing jelly mass of protoplasm."

It was an odd experiment that had held him for months, this goal of transforming his rugged body into the shapeless ooze of Nature's simplest organism. What was the gain? Ralph was not sure but the passion of science was too strong in him to worry about practical uses for his discoveries. If he could learn a secret of Nature, then he was content, no matter what the price.

He stood waiting, flexing his muscles, moving arms and legs. An odd sensation stirred his nerves but nothing physical was happening. Presently he hurled the test tube to the floor in disgust. "I've failed again. Whatever that stuff did, I'm certainly no blob of jelly."

Without warning the door of his laboratory crashed in. Three grim-faced hoodlums tramped in, covering him with guns. The leader, a tall, thin man, was familiar. His face had often appeared on the front pages of newspapers. Ralph gasped, "Shoots Mangro, the gang chief. What do you want here?"

Shoots jerked his head. "Lock this chump in the closet while I select the stuff we need." He grinned nastily at Ralph. "I'm not a bad scientist myself, fellow, but it's a little hard for me to buy chemicals. The police are always nosing into my affairs. So we're just helping ourselves to your stock. Keep quiet and you won't get hurt."

Raging but helpless, Ralph was locked into a small, airless supply closet. He stood there in a fury, listening as the gangster looted his stock of rare drugs and chemicals

Suddenly a strange sensation swept over Ralph. His whole body seemed to be melting. His legs dissolved into a blubbery mass. Then his whole body melted down into jelly. Yet his brain was clear and active and a surge of triumph swept through him. "It worked after all. I've turned into an amoeba. I can think and move myself, but I'm no more than a formless mass of protoplasm."

Then he heard the crash of breaking glass beyond the door and a new rage filled him. Ruthlessly the gangsters were wrecking what they could not use. With sudden purpose Ralph exerted his will and felt himself squeezing out under the crack of the closet door. He surged out into the open, rolling across the floor by poking out a section of his own jelly-like substance.

A mobster saw the apparition and yelled in terror. Shoots swung around and his pistol spat flame and thunder. Ralph felt the bullets ripping thru him but the wounds sealed over instantly and there was no pain. Triumph filled him. He was impervious to bullets. He could even be torn apart and he would merely rejoin and become whole.

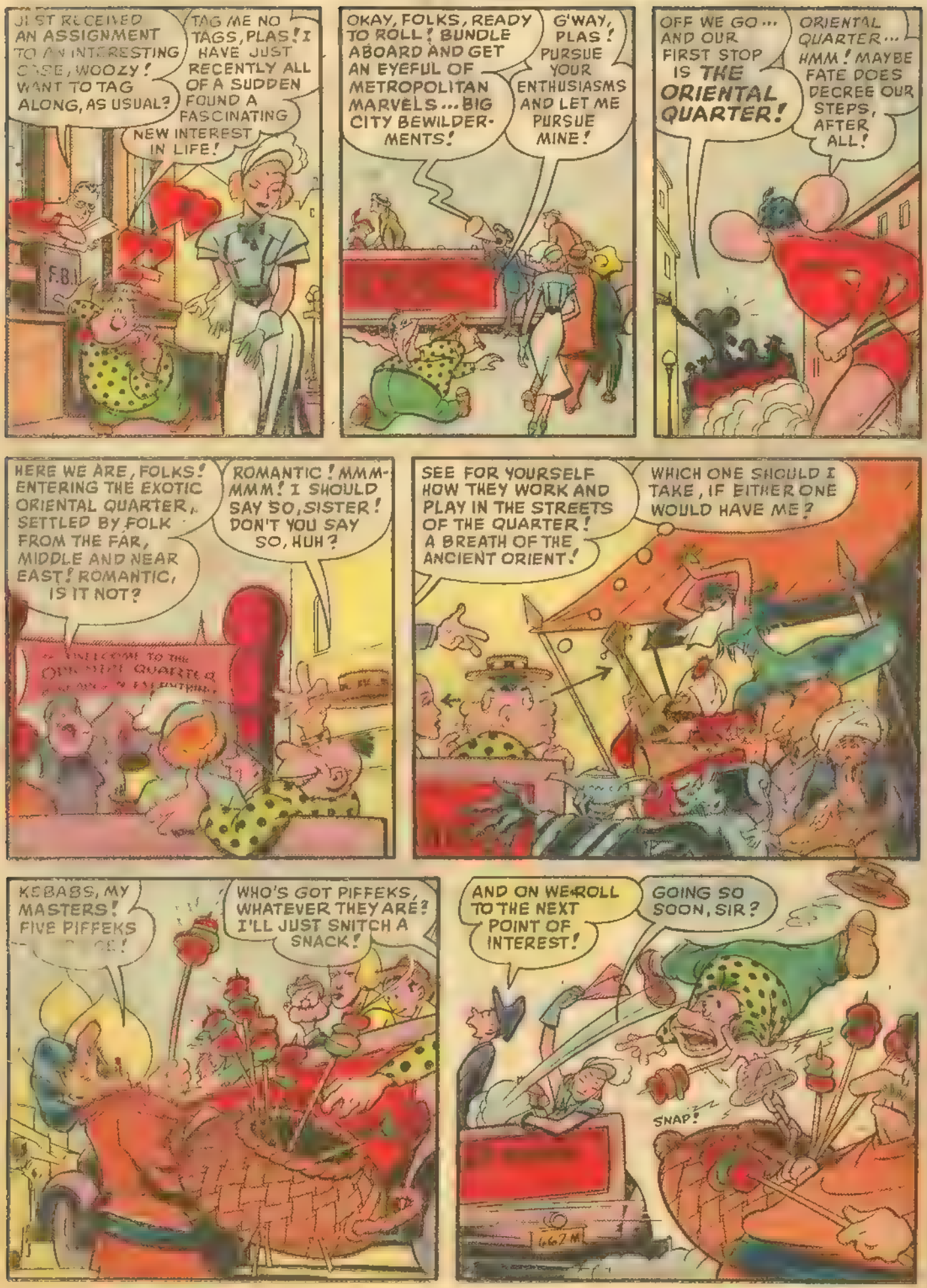
He exerted his will and long, amber tentacles swept out to engulf the gangsters. Yelling and screaming, they were swept into the jelly-like embrace. Then, with incredible strength, Ralph slammed their heads on the floor. As they went limp, he thought, "I wish I had my normal body now, so I could call the police."

Almost with the thought he felt himself stiffening. He looked down and the jelly-form was drawing together. A moment later he stood upright, whole and normal. A great wondering awe filled him. "Why," he said dazedly, "I can control my body. I wanted desperately to turn into an amoeba back there in the closet and I did. Now, when I wanted to resume my normal form, it worked again. I'm the most unusual figure on earth."

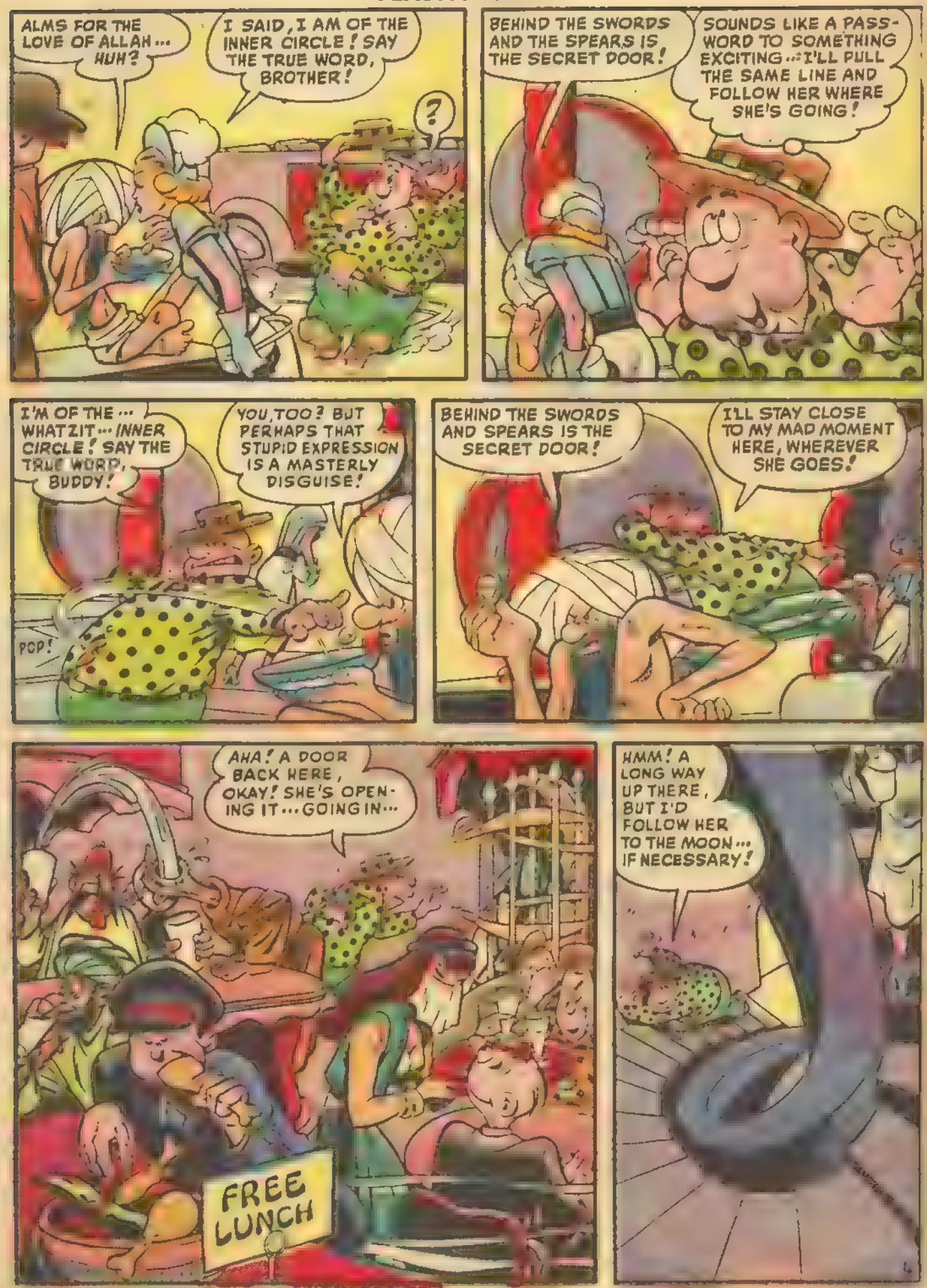
And then he knew his destiny. "What a crime fighter I could be with my strange power. As an amoeba, I could crawl anywhere, face any danger, penetrate any hiding place. Why not? I'll call myself Mr. Blobb and become the terror of the underworld."

And with a look of new purpose on his face, Ralph Hagan, alias Mr. Blobb, strode to the telephone to surrender his first captives to the Law.

PLASTIC MAN
COME TO THE ORIENTAL QUARTER ... PLACE OF STRANGE SIGHTS, EXOTIC ROMANCE AND DIRE DANGER!!!
FATE OR CHANCE OR SOMETHING DREW PLASTIC MAN AND WOOZY WINKS INTO AN ADVENTURE WITH FLAMING FIRE, GLEAMING WEAPONS AND SPECIALLY IMPORTED TERROR AND TROUBLE!


JUST RECEIVED AN ASSIGNMENT TO AN INTERESTING CASE, WOOZY! WANT TO TAG ALONG, AS USUAL?
TAG ME NO TAGS, PLAS! I HAVE JUST RECENTLY ALL OF A SUDDEN FOUND A FASCINATING NEW INTEREST IN LIFE!
F.B.I.
OKAY, FOLKS, READY TO ROLL! BUNDLE ABOARD AND GET AN EYEFUL OF METROPOLITAN MARVELS... BIG CITY BEWILDERMENTS!
G'WAY, PLAS! PURSUE YOUR ENTHUSIASMS AND LET ME PURSUE MINE!
OFF WE GO... AND OUR FIRST STOP IS THE ORIENTAL QUARTER!
ORIENTAL QUARTER... HMM! MAYBE FATE DOES DECREE OUR STEPS, AFTER ALL!
HERE WE ARE, FOLKS! ENTERING THE EXOTIC ORIENTAL QUARTER, SETTLED BY FOLK FROM THE FAR, MIDDLE AND NEAR EAST! ROMANTIC, IS IT NOT?
ROMANTIC! MMM-MMM! I SHOULD SAY SO, SISTER! DON'T YOU SAY SO, HUH?
SEE FOR YOURSELF HOW THEY WORK AND PLAY IN THE STREETS OF THE QUARTER! A BREATH OF THE ANCIENT ORIENT!
WHICH ONE SHOULD I TAKE, IF EITHER ONE WOULD HAVE ME?
KEBABS, MY MASTERS! FIVE PIFFEKS
WHO'S GOT PIFFEKS, WHATEVER THEY ARE? I'LL JUST SNITCH A SNACK!
AND ON WE ROLL TO THE NEXT POINT OF INTEREST!
GOING SO SOON, SIR?
SNAP!

OWW! WHAT A LEP ON MY KIPPERS! THERE'S A LAWYER ... I'LL SUE...
APPROACH, O MINION OF THE LAW! THIS DOG OF A PILFERING UNBELIEVER WAS SEEKING TO STEAL MY WARES!
SWIFTLY, O FOULEST OF FELONS, PAY THE UTTERMOST PIFFEK, OR I WILL CAST THEE INTO THE DEEPEST AND DIREST OF DUNGEONS!
HOLD EVERYTHING, GENTLEMEN! I KNOW THIS LITTLE FELLOW... I'LL PAY FOR WHAT HE TOOK!
F YOU VOUCH FOR HIM, O MIGHTY PLASTIC MAN, EFENDER OF E DOWN-RODDEN...
HE MEANS WELL, THOUGH IT'S HARD TO BELIEVE AT TIMES! LEAVE HIM IN MY CUSTODY!
SALAAM, MY MASTERS! SALAAM AND SALAAM!
TRY IT AND I'LL SLAM YOU RIGHT BACK!
NOW THAT I'VE GOT YOU OUT OF TROUBLE, I'M GLAD YOU SHOWED MY CASE ... RUN ERRANDS AND...
NO, PLAS, NO! I'VE AN ERRAND OF MY OWN TO RUN... AND I'M RUNNING!
WE STOP FOR TEN MINUTES TO VISIT THIS INTERESTING RESORT OF EASTERN SOCIETY... VERY EXCLUSIVE... NOBODY ADMITTED WHO CAN'T PAY FIVE PAZOOMAS ADMISSION!
AH! THERE SHE IS!
KLUB KASBAH


ALMS FOR THE LOVE OF ALLAH... HUH?
I SAID, I AM OF THE INNER CIRCLE! SAY THE TRUE WORD, BROTHER!
?
BEHIND THE SWORDS AND THE SPEARS IS THE SECRET DOOR!
SOUNDS LIKE A PASS-WORD TO SOMETHING EXCITING... I'LL PULL THE SAME LINE AND FOLLOW HER WHERE SHE'S GOING!
I'M OF THE... WHATZIT... INNER CIRCLE! SAY THE TRUE WORD, BUDDY!
YOU, TOO? BUT PERHAPS THAT STUPID EXPRESSION IS A MASTERLY DISGUISE!
POP!
BEHIND THE SWORDS AND SPEARS IS THE SECRET DOOR!
I'LL STAY CLOSE TO MY MAD MOMENT HERE, WHEREVER SHE GOES!
AHA! A DOOR BACK HERE, OKAY! SHE'S OPEN-ING IT... GOING IN...
FREE LUNCH
HMM! A LONG WAY UP THERE, BUT I'D FOLLOW HER TO THE MOON... IF NECESSARY!

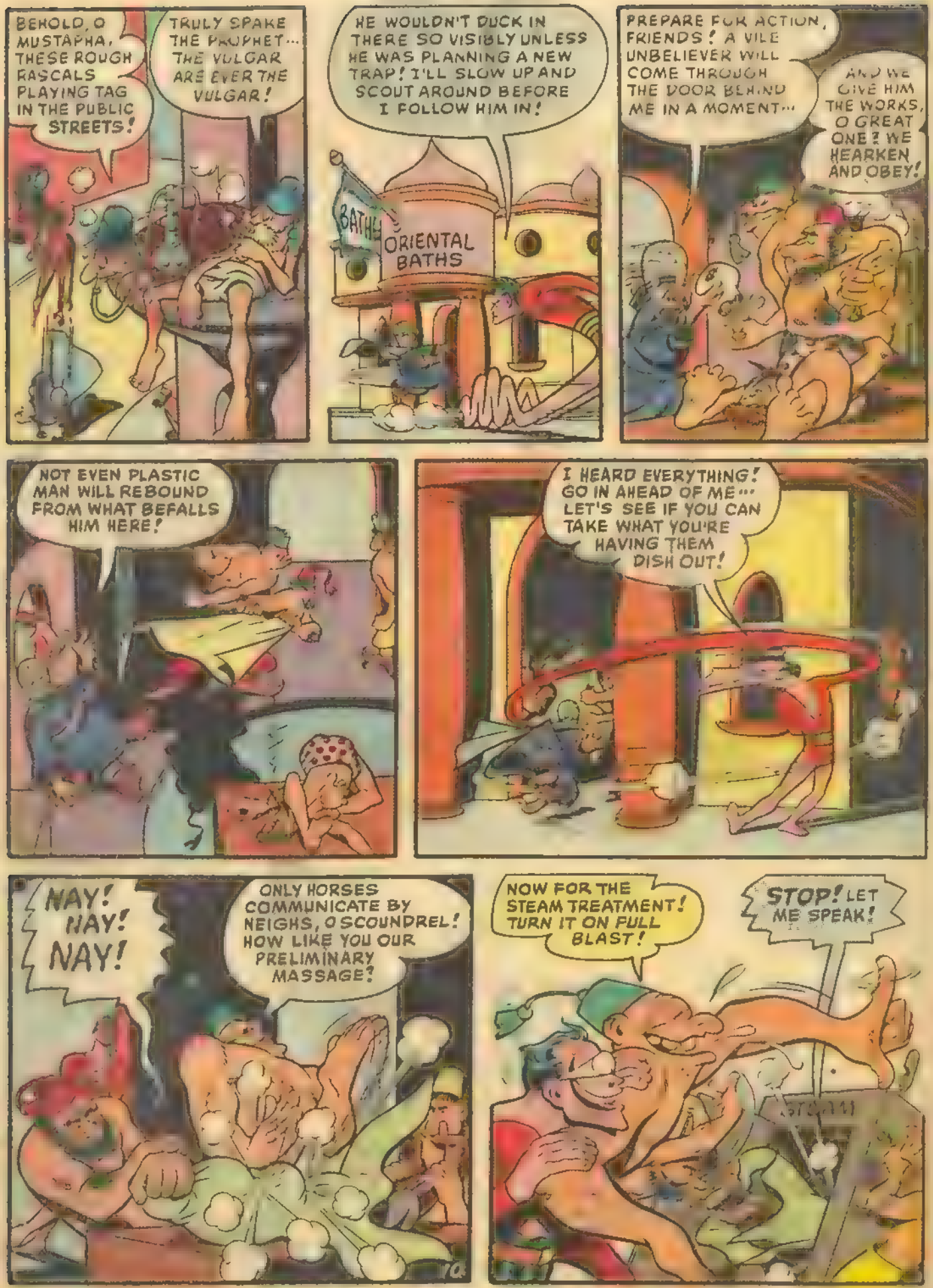
IT'S PROBABLY ...OT AS WELL THAT I DON'T HAVE ...OZY MUDDLING THIS CASE...
I AM OF THE INNER CIRCLE! SAY THE TRUE WORD, BROTHER!
IT IS THE WORLD-RENOWNED PLASTIC MAN! THE DAMSEL YOU ARE TO MEET HAS GONE BEFORE... LIKEWISE THE OTHER ONE!
CLANK!
THE OTHER ONE? WHAT OTHER ONE? WE WERE TO MEET IN THE SECRET RENDEZVOUS ALONE!
ALACK, O GREAT ONE! MAYHAP IT WAS A SPY... A TRAITOR!
QUICK, FRIEND! THE TRUE WORD, THAT I MAY FOLLOW!
BEHOLD, BROTHERS! PLASTIC MAN GREETS THE BEGGAR... THE MEETING OF OUR ENEMIES MUST BE SET FOR THIS PLACE!
THE TRUE WORD? OF COURSE... IT IS THUS... BEHIND THE...
ATTACK THEM! ALLAHU AKBAR!
AH, I KNOW THESE GENTLEMEN! BAZOOKA KHAN'S YOUR NAME, EH? WELL, BLOW!
POLICE! PO...
5
SILENCE, TRAITOR!
AND THIS IS KUTTUP, AS I REMEMBER! AN UPPER-CUT FOR YOU, KUTTUP!
BLUB-BLUB-BLUB-BLUB-BLUB!

MAY THE BLACKEST PLAGUE STRIKE YOU... OOF!
I KNOW YOU, TOO, ALI BADDA! AN ALL BAD GUY!
ARE YOU STILL ALIVE, FRIEND? SPEAK TO ME!
RETREAT! FIND SHELTER, O COMRADES!
THE TRUE WORD... AT ONCE!
YES... BEHIND THE SWORDS AND SPEARS IS THE
POP!
BEHIND THE SWORDS AND SPEARS! THEN PLASTIC MAN'S COMRADES HAVE MOUNTED TO THE TOWER ABOVE THE KLUB KASBAH!
THIS INCENDIARY BOMB WILL DESTROY THE BUILDING... AND THOSE MEDDLERS WITH IT!
FIRE! FIRE!
ANOTHER FIENDISH FEAT OF ALI BADDA AND HIS LOW-MINDED LIEUTENANTS!
HELP! HELP!
WHEW! IF I STRETCH TOO CLOSE TO THE FLAMES, THEY'LL VULCANIZE ME!
ALAS, THAT MINE EYES SHOULD BEHOLD PLASTIC MAN FLEEING FROM HIS DUTY!
NOT ME! JUST WATCH!

INSHALLAH! A MIRACLE!
WHOMP!
IT'S PLASTIC MAN! BUT HOW WILL YOU GET DOWN AGAIN ··· WITH US?
ONCE UP HERE, IT'S EASY!
NOW, SLIDE DOWN TO SAFETY! QUICK, BEFORE THE TOWER COLLAPSES!
JUST LIKE CONEY ISLAND ··· WITHOUT BUYING TICKETS FOR THE RIDE!
PLASTIC MAN, THIS LITTLE FIEND HAS FOLLOWED ME EVERY-WHERE! A SPY OF THE GANG, NO DOUBT!
NO, WOOZY'S HARMLESS! HE DIDN'T WANT ANY PART OF THIS CASE FROM THE BEGINNING BUT FATE HAS DECIDED OTHERWISE!
FATE! AHEM! A VERY ENJOYABLE FATE, I THINK!
THIS LADY IS A SECRET OPERATIVE, HIRED BY THE HONEST CITIZENS OF THE ORIENTAL QUARTER! SHE ASKED THE BUREAU FOR HELP, SO THE CHIEF ASSIGNED THE CASE TO ME!
A BUNCH OF CROOKS ARE TRYING TO ORGANIZE A RACKET TO TAKE OVER THE BIG RUBBERNECK BUS BUSINESS THAT VISITS THE QUARTER! I RODE THE BUS TODAY TO MEET PLASTIC MAN AND TELL WHAT I'D LEARNED!
I'VE LEARNED SOMETHING MYSELF··· ALI BADDA SHOWED HIS HAND! AND HIS CHIEF LIEUTENANTS ARE BAZOOKA KHAN AND KUTTUP!
SCHMUCH!
SCHMUCH!
ALI BADDA··· BAZOOKA KHAN··· KUTTUP! THEY ARE THREE OF THE MOST DANGEROUS KILLERS IN THE QUARTER!
TEN THOUSAND DEVILS! OUR PLANS ARE KNOWN! WE MUST DESTROY OUR ENEMIES OR BE DESTROYED!

BUT THAT PLASTIC MAN! IT IS TREASON TO SPEAK OF A FAIR FIGHT WITH HIM!
FAIR FIGHT!
PLAY ON PLASTIC MAN'S GREATEST WEAKNESS!
SNIP!
HE HAS PITY FOR THOSE IN PAIN AND TROUBLE! BAZOOKA KHAN, FEIGN INJURY... THEN TRICK HIM INTO OUR UNDERGROUND DEN OF DESTRUCTION!
BUT... BUT...
ALLAH ASSIST ME! BRING DOCTORS... SURGEONS... AMBULANCES!
IT'S BAZOOKA KHAN! HE SEEMS TO BE HURT!
I OBJECTED TO THE CRUEL ALI BADDA'S PLAN TO DESTROY YOU WITH FIRE! HE FLEW INTO A RAGE... BEAT ME HALF TO DEATH... THREW ME OUT OF HIS GANG!
MAYBE YOU'LL BE GLAD TO HELP US!
YES, HE FORESOOK ME! BUT I WILL HAVE REVENGE! COME, I LEAD YOU TO HIS HIDDEN LAIR!
HMM... WELL, OKAY, BAZOOKA KHAN! LEAD ON!
APPLE 1 PIFF
PLUNK!
BAZOOKA KHAN SUCCEEDS! I HEAR FOOTSTEPS ON THE STAIRS ABOVE US!
AND THUS WE PREPARE A PITFALL FOR THE UNWARY!
ENTER HERE! WE HAVE THEM CORNERED!
VERILY A TRIUMPH, BAZOOKA KHAN! STEP CLEAR ACROSS THE RUG, AND THEN...

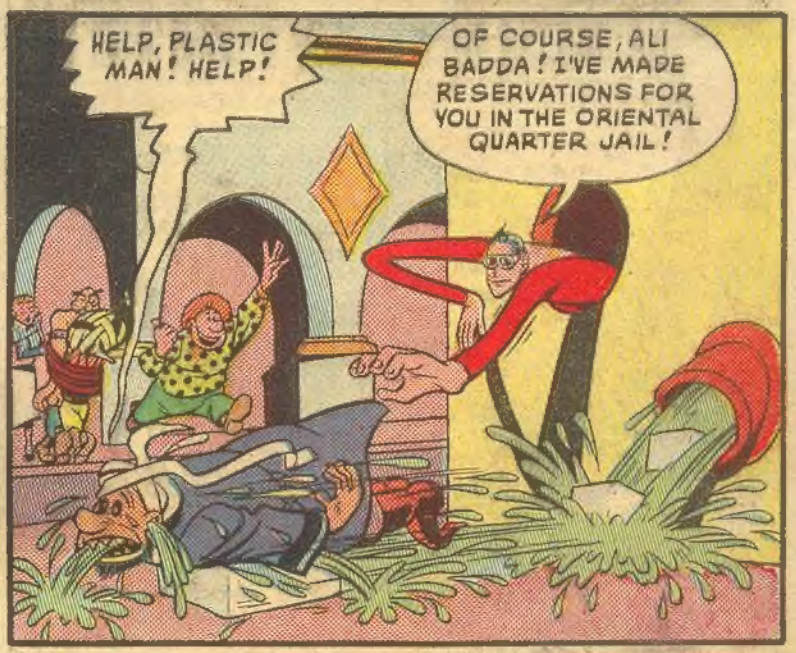
HEY!
MY CONGRATULATIONS, BAZOOKA KHAN! THEY ARE TRAPPED LIKE THE RATS THEY ARE!
HELPLESS! DOOMED!
STAND ASIDE, ALI BADDA, WHILE I HOIST THEM UP!
WAIT, BAZOOKA KHAN! THEY ARE ONLY THE ASSISTANTS! YOU DID NOT LURE PLASTIC MAN TO OUR DEN!
OH, BUT PLASTIC MAN IS HERE! RIGHT BEFORE YOUR EYES, IN FACT!
IN FACT, I AM PLASTIC MAN!
I WILL SLASH OFF HIS HEAD!
I DIDN'T TRUST BAZOOKA KHAN! HE'S TIED UP ON THE STAIRS JUST OUTSIDE!
EASY WITH THAT SLICER! I'M NO WATERMELON!
SNAP!
QUIET DOWN, KUTTUP WOOZY, TIE THESE TWO TOGETHER!
PLASTIC MAN! ALI BADDA... THE REAL LEADER OF THE GANG... HE'S ESCAPING!


BEHOLD, O MUSTAPHA, THESE ROUGH RASCALS PLAYING TAG IN THE PUBLIC STREETS!
TRULY SPAKE THE PROPHET... THE VULGAR ARE EVER THE VULGAR!
HE WOULDN'T DUCK IN THERE SO VISIBLY UNLESS HE WAS PLANNING A NEW TRAP! I'LL SLOW UP AND SCOUT AROUND BEFORE I FOLLOW HIM IN!
BATHS
ORIENTAL BATHS
PREPARE FOR ACTION, FRIENDS! A VILE UNBELIEVER WILL COME THROUGH THE DOOR BEHIND ME IN A MOMENT...
AND WE GIVE HIM THE WORKS, O GREAT ONE? WE HEARKEN AND OBEY!
NOT EVEN PLASTIC MAN WILL REBOUND FROM WHAT BEFALLS HIM HERE!
I HEARD EVERYTHING! GO IN AHEAD OF ME... LET'S SEE IF YOU CAN TAKE WHAT YOU'RE HAVING THEM DISH OUT!
NAY! NAY! NAY!
ONLY HORSES COMMUNICATE BY NEIGHS, O SCOUNDREL! HOW LIKE YOU OUR PRELIMINARY MASSAGE?
NOW FOR THE STEAM TREATMENT! TURN IT ON FULL BLAST!
STOP! LET ME SPEAK!

HAVE MERCY! IT IS HOTTER THAN THE THRONE OF THE EVIL ONE!
HE COMPLAINS OF THE HEAT! SWIFTLY I PREPARE RELIEF FOR HIM!
STEAM
SSSSS
ICE

WHAT GOES ON HERE, IF A STRANGER MAY INQUIRE?
OUR SPECIAL BATH TREATMENT FOR A FEEBLE CUSTOMER, O STRANGER! THESE EFFORTS WILL RESTORE HIM TO HEALTH!

THUS WE CONCLUDE THE PROGRAM... DRAINING THE TANK OF WATER... AND OF OUR CUSTOMER!
I'LL GO OUTSIDE AND WATCH THE FINISH OF IT!
GLUG!
GLUG!


HELP, PLASTIC MAN! HELP!
OF COURSE, ALI BADDA! I'VE MADE RESERVATIONS FOR YOU IN THE ORIENTAL QUARTER JAIL!

JAIL... I'LL GLADLY GO IF THERE ARE DOCTORS THERE TO HEAL ME!
GIVE ALI BADDA A CHANCE TO RECOVER, AND HE'LL CONFESS TO HIS CONSPIRACY!
ORIENTAL QUARTER POLICE
CHATTER! CHATTER!

AND NOW THAT THE DANGER IS PAST... ALL THE ORIENTAL QUARTER IS OURS FOR ROMANCE!
YES, WOOZY, AND I'LL LEAVE THAT STRICTLY TO YOU! JUST NOW I'VE A DATE TO MIX UP A BATCH OF PERSIAN PANCAKES FOR PLASTIC MAN!

"U.S." ROYAL WITH HIS JET-PROPELLED BIKE

SPOILING THE GANGSTERS' SCHE...

THE STATE'S STAR WITNESS IS ON HIS WAY BY TRAIN TO SEND A VICIOUS GANG-LEADER "UP THE RIVER"--UNTIL THE GANGSTER'S MOB DECIDES TO SEND THE *TRAIN INTO* THE RIVER...

BOOM!

THERE GOES THE BRIDGE! TOO BAD WE CAN'T STICK AROUND TO WATCH THE BIG SPLASH!

BUT DEPUTY U.S. ROYAL AND THE ELM CITY BIKE CLUB BOYS ARE ON HAND WITH A FEW PLANS OF THEIR *OWN!*

BOYS, YOU TAG THEIR CAR WHILE I TRY TO HEAD OFF THE TRAIN... SHE'S DUE HERE IN *5 MINUTES!*

THERE'S THE CONTROL STATION UP AHEAD... NOW IF THEY CAN JUST RADIO THE TRAIN ENGINEER IN TIME!

SOON, INSIDE THE CAB OF THE DOOMED TRAIN...

...ALL BRAKES DOWN FOR EMERGENCY STOP... WRECKED BRIDGE IMMEDIATELY AHEAD...

S-C-REE-CH!

YOUR SPEED SAVED OUR LIVES, ROYAL!

WE CAUGHT THE GANGSTERS -- THANKS TO THE BOYS HERE TIPPING US OFF TO THEIR LICENSE NUMBER!

THEY MIGHT HAVE GOTTEN *AWAY* WITH IT, TOO, IF WE *ALL* HADN'T BEEN RIDIN' ON *U.S. ROYAL BIKE TIRES!*

FELLAS, IF IT'S BIKE SPEED WITH SAFETY YOU'RE AFTER, INSIST ON *U.S. ROYAL BIKE TIRES!* THAT BUILT-IN SKID-CHAIN MEANS TOP CONTROL AT ALL TIMES!

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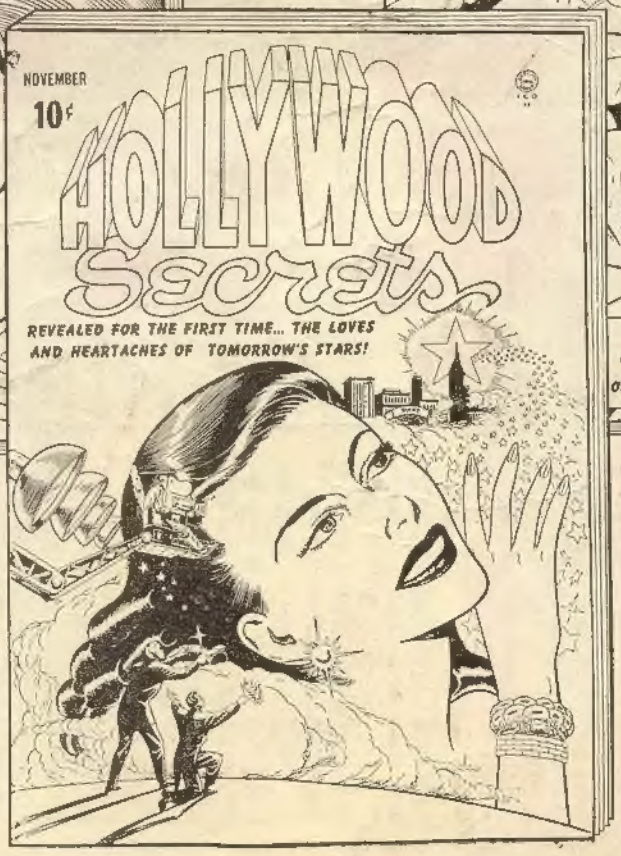

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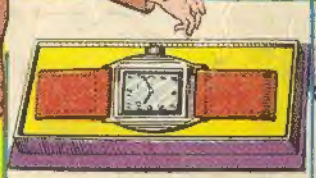

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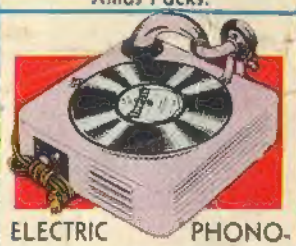
Boys! Get this Official Size Football. Sell one order of Xmas Packs



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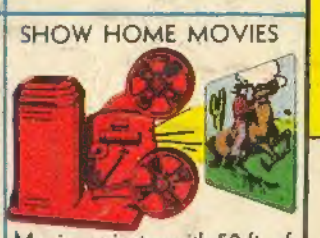

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My choice of prize is_____

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